

Chip Seals

Cottonwood Heights has many road treatment options available for your neighborhood. We have determined that the best treatment for your road at this time is a chip seal. This is based on the age and condition of your road and by using a preventative maintenance program and road condition model that helps optimize the use of limited road funding to maximize the life of the road system.

What is a Chip Seal?

A chip seal is a thin layer of hot asphalt combined with pea-sized aggregate rock. This surface is applied to the roadway to help prevent moisture from degrading the underlying pavement. People also like it because it makes the road look new.

The city contracts with Salt Lake County Public Works to perform the chip seals. The County uses a grey aggregate from North Salt Lake that is very porous and absorbs the oil in the asphalt well. Consequently, the roads remain black for a much longer period of time. The main objective, however, is to seal the road so that moisture does not penetrate the asphalt, since moisture degrades the road surface.

Please be careful

Once the chips are placed on the hot asphalt, it might take a few days before a final 'fog coat' is applied. This fog coat helps seal the chips. In the mean time, loose rock can be projected from the road surface and damage paint and windshields. Please don't drive faster than 10 mph and don't follow another vehicle too closely. After the fog coat, a street sweeper will remove most the loose rock, but please be careful until the loose rock has set.

The biggest benefit of a chip seal is the cost. Chip Seals are a very cost-effective way to treat our roads because they cost much less than an overlay. By using cost-effective solutions, we are able to treat more roads in the city. The county's Public Works Department does such a good job at applying chip seals that people often cannot tell the difference between the chip seal and a new overlay. We are proud to have some of the best chip sealed roads in the Utah.

Please remember

- ✓ **Drive Slowly**
- ✓ Chips can become airborne
- ✓ Don't follow another car too closely
- ✓ Please don't park on the road
- ✓ Obey all traffic signs and heed direction from work crews

